



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **District Man Sentenced to 30 Years Incarceration For Brazen, Daylight Armed Home Invasion**

WASHINGTON - Joseph M. Evans, 22, has been sentenced to 30 years of incarceration for a brazen, daylight home invasion with a firearm that he committed on January 28, 2008, in Northeast Washington, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Evans, of Washington, D.C., earlier was convicted by a jury in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of charges of first degree burglary, armed robbery, possession of unregistered ammunition, and possession of a firearm during a crime of violence. He was sentenced on December 10, 2010 by the Honorable Judge Jennifer Anderson. The prison term is to be followed by five years of supervised release.

According to the government's evidence, presented at trial and sentencing, Evans participated in the daylight home invasion, with at least one other person, in the 3900 block of Blaine Street NE. Evans entered the home with a revolver and robbed the victim, 21. At one point during the assault, Evans placed the barrel of the gun against the back of the head of the victim and threatened to kill him. Evans and his accomplice robbed the victim of his property, keys, and cell phone, before fleeing the area.

Evans was separately charged with committing the homicide and armed robbery of Taon Williams on January 18, 2008, in a shooting that occurred 10 days prior to the armed home invasion. Taon Williams, 25, was killed by a gunshot in the back of the head in the 4200 block of Blaine Street NE. Evans was acquitted of the homicide after a jury trial, but the government was permitted to present evidence about the killing during the sentencing phase of the home invasion case. In the sentencing portion of the home invasion case, Evans did not dispute that he intentionally shot Taon Williams, but insisted he did so in self-defense.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Detectives Andrea Latson, Amber Chesla, Daniel Whalen, William Xanten, and former MPD Detective Bryan Waid. He also commended the work of Officers Ruben Agosto, James Alexander, Sgt. Denise Calhoun, Lester Taylor, and MPD Mobile Crime

Officers Grant Greenwalt and Dwayne Mitchell. Mr. Machen additionally praised the work of Paralegals Richard Cheatham, Anthony Griffith, Antoinette Sakamsa, and Robin Brown of Litigation Services. Mr. Machen also thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Tejpal S. Chawla, Thomas Gillice, and Amy Zubrensky, who assisted in handling this case.

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